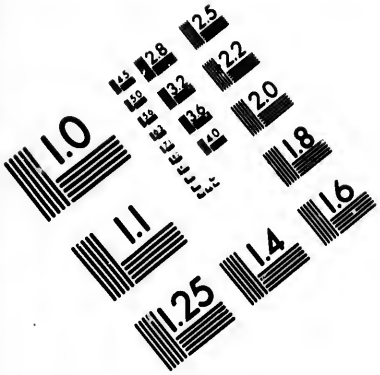


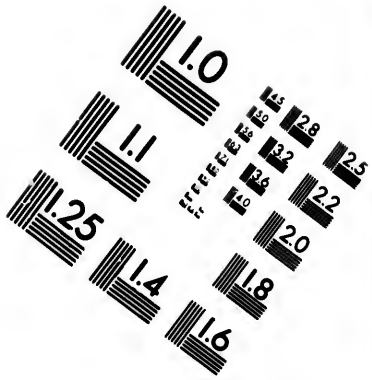
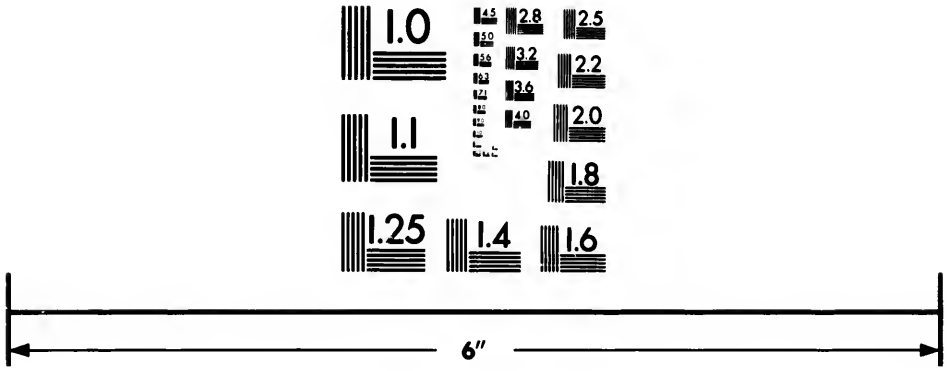
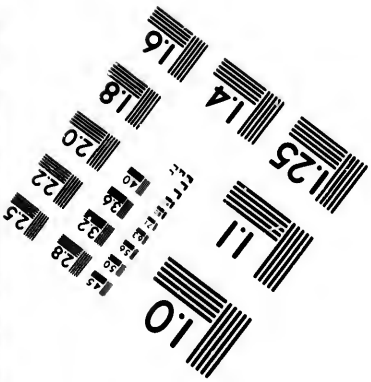
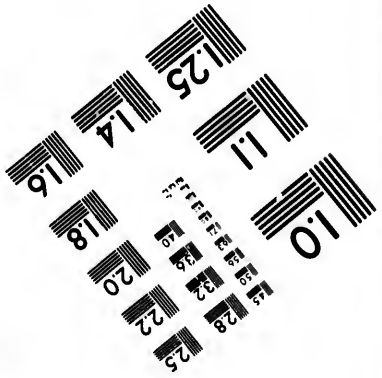


IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)







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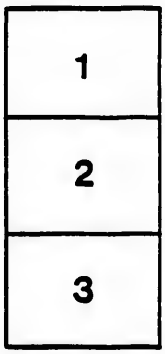

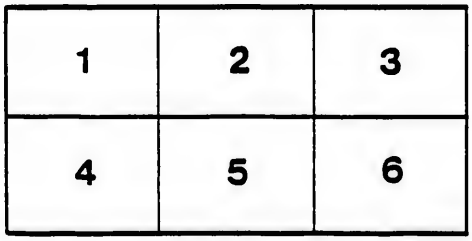

NORMAN MURRAY'S

New Year's Greeting to his Montreal Friends

As it is only lately I discovered I could rhyme,
I think I'll try and give you my impressions of the time;
I would be most ungrateful if I neglected Montreal,
So in my memorandum I'll put it first of all

It is a noble city—no better in the land;
I'll prefer it to any other while I'm above the sand,
And though we do at times each other criticise,
This is always a privilege true Britons exercise.

But to study human nature there's no place here below
Where there's more variety of different kinds to show.
Sometimes you hear smart people say that we are slow,
So great and mighty rivers slow oftentimes do flow.

I have come here a stranger—did not know a man in town—
There are very few now in the city know more up and down;
And though I have no riches of which I can boast,
Still, here's to old Montreal, I'll give her the first toast.

We have English, French and Irish, Scotchmen and some Jews,
We have Germans and Italians, and several other crews,
We have socialists and and anarchists, some tories and some whigs,
But for a party as a party I would not give two figs.

And sometimes in the summer we have Yankees from the States,
And we always like to see them for they are mostly first class mates:
And though we think sometimes that they blow a little high,
We can stand it all and more, and wink the other eye.

... sticks up for his own,

Do you know I rather like the man that sticks up for his ...
But I have no use for anyone who does his own disown,
And though sometimes I rub them (it's only just for fun)
I don't wish any harm to one below the sun.

And though in matters of religion we often disagree,
Your theories and dogmas are indifferent to me;
And though I don't like Moses and old David would displace,
I think the MAN OF GALILEE the greatest of the race.

And when some religious fanatics of the Methodist fake school
Had tried to curb my liberty, I used them for a tool;
And the people are now discussing on the merits of the case,
And by-and-by I'll give them on some other line a chase.

I had no dread of lawyers or the judges on the bench,
For the Methodists with ridicule were laughed at by the French:
And what was quite unusual with the people in such plight,
With the judge, likewise with the officers, I shook hands with much delight.

And our local newspapers *Star*, *Witness* and *Gazette*,
The *Herald* and *La Presse*, gave me an advertisement I never shall forget.
And now for the coming year, when you want something in my line,
Just call in when you're passing—there's no contract to sign.

Norman Murray, Bookseller and Newsagent, and publisher of "Murray's Illustrated Guide to Montreal." 21 Beaver Hall Hill, Montreal.